

1 Tim 4:8 for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

Have you ever heard some  
skeptic disparage Christianity  
because of abuses by missionaries  
in primitive societies?

Why do you want to destroy other  
cultures' lifestyles?

Before Columbus came to America this was not a idyllic place where everyone was happy, healthy and living peacefully with one another.

In Tidewater Potomac, 1500 AD; 22.9 yrs

In Mississippi, 1200 AD; 24.3 yrs

Neither writings nor permanent structures exist to indicate that society in North America had advanced to the point that we can do any more than speculate about the lifestyle of those living here.

When you consider the health of those who lived without access to God's word, you find diseases which caused life to be short and vicious.

In the “Dark Ages” life expectancy dropped as low as 17 (during cholera epidemic in London). In 1662, Graunt found that the average life expectancy in London was 27 years, with 65% of people dying before age 16, the vast majority due to childhood infectious diseases ...

Although there were centuries  
that would pass before men  
finally began to read the Bible,  
the wisdom of God as represented  
in the dietary and cleanliness laws  
of the Jews was evident and has  
become more so as knowledge  
has advanced.

Exod 15:26 And He said, "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer."

The Gospel arrived on the shores of North America in many different ways. Religious persecution by Catholic nations in Europe, who failed to read the Bible and live as Christians, was a common cause.

Those involved in this persecution claimed to know and worship God but they failed miserably in their understanding having virtually no knowledge of the Bible.



The central problem through the Dark ages was the lack of knowledge of God's word. Until Vatican II in 1967, Roman Catholics were forbidden to read God's word. Even now they are told they cannot understand it without the help of a trained priest.

Eph 5:4 And by referring to this,  
when you read you can  
understand my insight into the  
mystery of Christ, ... 17 So then  
do not be foolish, but understand  
what the will of the Lord is.

In 1517, with access to the Bible, Martin Luther, a Roman Catholic monk at the time, was able to read the Scriptures and find 95 items in which the Roman Catholic Church had failed to follow the Scriptures.

In 1525, Tyndale translated the  
Scriptures into English so that  
every man could read God's will.

About the same time on this side of the earth, the Aztecs were offering human hearts to their God and the Hawaiians were throwing virgins into volcanoes to appease Pele. The Indians in Mississippi were building mounds and in the Caribbean the natives were sacrificing the winners in their football tournaments.

Acts 17:24 "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; 25 neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things; 26 and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation, 27 that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

In each of these pagan practices,  
man had sought God but could not  
find Him!

When those who followed Christ  
encountered these appalling  
practices, they taught a better  
way to those who would hear.  
Over 1500 years before, one man  
had willing given Himself to die  
that all might live.



Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

Wherever those who followed Christ with an open Bible went, schools followed.

Literacy was necessary to follow God.

Joh 20:30-31 Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; (31) but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

1 Tim 4:13 Until I come, devote  
yourself to the public reading of  
Scripture, to preaching and to  
teaching.

These simple words required literacy and education has been prized most highly among those who read their Bibles. Literacy has provided a population capable of reasoning as well as achieving technical goals.

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Although Jesus came to save us from sin (Mt 1:21), he also healed the sick on more than ten occasions. Many have followed after his example although you will see virtually none of these works carried out by atheists. Idol worship, sorcery and ridiculous remedies characterize societies in which the Bible is not read.

You may immediately say that many people are paid good money to provide pharmaceuticals and medical devices and yet the unrestrained care for other's health is characteristic only of nations in which the Bible has been a light to their way – the US, the UK, Switzerland, Germany, France. Why are the nations who carry out 90% of the research in Pharmaceuticals found in these countries?

In ages past, homosexuality, polyandry, polygyny, polygamy, communal living and other lifestyles has been commonplace, from Greece and Rome to tribes in various locations.

Emphasis on the family, as God ordained it, has been the focus of those who read the Bible.



“Children who grow up in a  
stable, loving, peaceful,  
nurturing, caring, positive, secure  
family have the best shot of  
becoming successful, productive,  
stable adults.”

Eph 5:22 Wives, be subject to  
your own husbands, as to the  
Lord. ... 25 Husbands, love your  
wives, just as Christ also loved  
the church and gave Himself up  
for her; ... 6:1 Children, obey your  
parents in the Lord, for this is  
right.

Many in our society currently fail to understand these great truths and those in other societies, for instance, Japan, Canada and Spain, will ultimately meet the problems that attend a society in which the Bible is not read.

Given these changes in society as a result of the Bible's influence on mankind, it is not possible to point to any other influence that has so profoundly affected society as a whole. And certainly no group of skeptics can point to a history so beneficial to mankind.

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If you have not been willing to follow Jesus in your life, will you not turn to the better way?

Joh 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.

Mar 16:16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.